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I reckon the Parish of *Stoke-Damerell* as healthful
an Air as any in *England*.

VIII. *An Extraordinary Case of the Foramen
Ovale of the Heart, being found open in an A-
dult, communicated by Claudius Amyand, Esq;
Serjeant Surgeon to his Majesty, and F. R. S.*

MR.* dying at the Age of Twenty-two, of an Illness
that had perplexed his Physicians, was opened,
to discover an Imposthume, which was apprehended
in the Belly. As nothing was observed there worth
notice, saving a very great Relaxation of the *Viscera*,
the Cause of his Death was looked for in the *Tho-
rax*; there the Lungs were strongly attached to the
Pleura on each Side, and a large Collection of Wa-
ter in each Cavity, especially on the Left, where the
posterior Lobe was inflamed, and tending to Suppura-
tion; the Quantity of Water in the *Pericardium* was
greater than usual, and the Heart much larger than
could be expected in so great an Atrophy as the Pa-
tient was reduced to; in it the *Foramen Ovale* was
found open, so as to give passage to a large Finger,
when a fungous Substance, which grew from the Cir-
cumference of the *Foramen*, and did stop up the
same, was removed. The Valve was hardly percep-
tible, it being callous and furled up. The *Ductus
Arteriosus* was found close as usual. This Patient
had enjoyed great Health till lately, and had given
no sign of this opening of the *Foramen Ovale*,
which is præternatural in Adults.
